

OCRA Membership Meeting Minutes – March 14, 2022

Check-ins (19) – Bruce (N1LN) – Zoom and UHF

Dave (W4SAR), Karen (KD4YJZ), Dan (KR4UB), Kathy (KN4JYP), Bill (N8BR), Ken (KO4DHJ), John (KX4P), Boyd (KO4GJO), Bob (W4FK), Ken (N4KF), Chuck (KW4KZ), Doug (KA5ETS), Sherri (WB4OSU), Mark (KR3AM), Bill (KI4RAN), Jeff (KM4WXW), Aurora (KN4VXB), Laurie (N1YXU), and Bruce (N1LN)

Opening Comments – Bruce, N1LN

- **Brief Updates on Teams –**
 - At our last membership meeting, five team leads gave presentations with updates for their respective teams. During the Board of Directors meeting, held a week before the membership meeting, the team leads updated the group with activities since the membership meeting. Highlights from their updates follow.
 - **Field Day Team – Dave (W4SAR)**
 - Dave sent an email to the OCRA/DFMA groups.io asking for volunteers who would participate in Field Day in terms of helping set-up, operating, and tearing-down. He also asked for feedback from members who plan to operate from home. Please provide your responses to Dave.
 - Since we will likely have fewer people able to participate in Field Day this year, the recommendation is to downsize our efforts from 9A to 5A.
 - Please be on the lookout for additional emails from Dave requesting input from team captains and providing general updates.
 - Dave has requested time on the agenda for the April, May, and June membership meetings to provide Field Day updates to the group.
 - Remember – Field Day is only successful when many members participate. Please get in touch with Dave to let him know you will be involved.
 - **Programs Team – Bill (N8BR) and John (KX4P)**
 - The first program is scheduled for this membership meeting. John (KX4P) will be giving a presentation on the restoration work he completed on his KWM-1.
 - In addition to the upcoming Field Day updates, there are two programs that are in the queue for the July/August timeframe.
 - The goal is to have a program at each membership meeting. If you have recommendations on topics, please let John know your suggestions. If you would like to give a presentation, please also contact John.
 - **Training Team – Technical and Operational – Wilson (W4BOH) and Bruce (N1LN)**
 - From an Operational Training perspective, net control and backup net control training have been provided as part of recent Saturday morning nets. Another training exercise was planned for the Saturday following the membership meeting. That training was planned for the Saturday morning net.
 - As we prepare for Field Day, Wilson (Technical Training Lead) and Bruce (Operational Training Lead) will work with Dave (W4SAR) to determine if there are any areas that need focused training.
 - If you would like to join either team or have recommendations for training topics, please contact Wilson or Bruce.
 - **Repeater Team – Dan (KR4UB)**

- Dan provided an update on the work that he is spending a lot of focused time to complete. This work is the topographic mapping associated with repeater coverage in our immediate geography. Dan has worked with Steve (W3AHL), members from the Chatham County radio group, and others to create a very detailed, informative mapping including repeater locations, amateur radio station locations, and coverage area.
 - The July membership meeting will be focused on the tri-county repeater study. This presentation will be very enlightening about why we can/cannot communicate with our repeaters from varying locations and with varying types of radios. The information will also help form the future plans for the local repeaters. Hopefully, the July meeting will be held in-person.
- **Restoration of a KWM-1 – John, KX4P**
 - Bruce introduced John’s presentation by highlighting how much John loves to restore old equipment and does an absolutely amazing job! The radio that John will focus on in his presentation was one of the earliest transceivers on the market. It truly influenced the technology that we use today.
 - John welcomed everyone to the presentation and mentioned that the transceiver is about 65 years old.
 - You can enjoy John’s full presentation (including Q&A) by going to the OCRA YouTube Channel or by clicking on this link - <https://youtu.be/AAgSRn29IQ>
 - Many thanks to John for a wonderful presentation!

Officers Reports

- **Vice-President’s Report – Bill, N8BR**
 - Bill is attending the DFMA meetings as the OCRA liaison.
- **Treasurer’s Report – Dan, KR4UB**
 - There are 92 members who are current in dues payments, 7 members need to renew, and 3 people have memberships that are expiring. In the past 12 months, we’ve had 17 new members join OCRA with 4 of them being newly licensed.
 - Two emails were sent about the meeting, one from the groups.io and one from the OCRA website. The email that came from the website included information about the Zoom meeting (ID and Passcode). At the bottom of that email, you will find a link that will take you to your membership profile. Your profile includes many pieces of information including an area where you can indicate the types of presentations you would like to hear. Please be sure to update that section. There is also a section where you can list what you would like to do for Field Day. The information in the profiles can be extracted into a single report that will very helpful to the Board as they continue to plan future events.
- **Secretary’s Report – Laurie, N1YXU**
 - The membership meeting minutes from February 14, 2022 have been posted to the OCRA website as a PDF file.
 - The video of John’s presentation will be posted to the OCRA YouTube channel.
- **President’s Report – Bruce, N1LN**
 - Thank you for your support and engagement! We have been able to provide training on the Saturday net and to have a great presentation tonight. Please get involved in your club. Ask the leads to give you more information about their teams. Volunteer to be part of a team. Each team needs a broad membership with different expertise. With everyone’s participation, we can continue to build and develop the club and our membership.

- **General Discussion- Bruce, N1LN**

- John (KX4P) updated the group that Sherri (WB4OSU) has joined the Programs Team. Thanks, Sherri!
- Bill (KI4RAN) indicated that he will be attending Field Day.

- **Meeting Closed and Check-outs - Bruce, N1LN**

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Meier, N1YXU, Secretary